



## **The St. Paul's Beacon**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
16457 Old Frederick Road,  
Mt. Airy, MD. 21771 (410-489-4411)

**December 2016**

### **Rector's Reflection**

St. Paul's Parish Family,

This year celebrate God's greatest gift to us and all creation – The Christ is Born.

#### **A Christmas Litany**

When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person  
it is Christmas

When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love  
it is Christmas

When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes  
it is Christmas

When the spirit of revenge dies in me  
it is Christmas

When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart  
it is Christmas

When I am buried in the being of God  
it is Christmas

*Sabeel Liberation Theology Centre  
(Jerusalem), Shine On, Star of Bethlehem*

For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onwards and for evermore.

*Isaiah 9. 6-7*

My family and I wish you a Holy and Happy Christmas Season!

Grace and Peace to all.  
Susan S Keller+

#### **Mark Your Calendars**

##### **Sunday Service Schedule**

**Sunday**, Dec. 4, 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday**, Dec. 11 & 18 8:00  
&10:30 a.m.

**Saturday**, Dec. 24, Christmas  
Eve 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday**, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m.  
Vestry Meeting

**Friday**, Dec. 9, 6:00 p.m.  
Cookie Exchange at the Bourg  
home.

**Wednesday**, Dec 14, 10:00  
a.m. Pastoral Care Meeting

**Thursday**, Dec. 1 & 15,  
5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry  
Meeting

**Fridays**, 7:00 p.m.  
Prayers in the Evening

## Dear Members of our St. Paul's family:

I am writing to you as the members of the Vestry felt it is important to keep the congregation informed about the status of St. Paul's budget through September 2016 (3rd quarter). The following information is provided for your understanding and consideration:

- As you may be aware, St. Paul's has been operating on a deficit budget for a number of years. This means that the amount pledged annually (our revenue) has been less than the projected cost of operating the church for the year. The projected annual budget deficit for 2016 was anticipated to be \$30,150 at the start of the year. Thankfully, due to unpledged contributions and our fundraising efforts we have ended the year with a small surplus almost every year.
- Through the end of September 2016 (3rd quarter) our functional deficit for the current year was \$11,754.01 - as compared to the projected deficit of \$24,606 at the 9-month mark. We typically make up the majority of our deficit as a result of our November fund raising efforts - St. Paul's Holiday Bazaar and the Bazaar of the Churches. This year St. Paul's Holiday Bazaar was cancelled due to declining interest and the declining availability of volunteers. The Holiday Bazaar typically netted about \$4,000 in revenue for St. Paul's.
- Based upon past performance, the Treasurer estimates that we will end 2016 with a deficit of \$5,000 to \$6,000. This would be the largest "end of year" deficit in many years (perhaps ever) and only the second time in the past 6 years where we have ended the year with a deficit. The last deficit occurred in 2013 when St. Paul's ended the year with a deficit of \$1,327.
- Just like any business, the annual operating costs for St. Paul's typically increase by some percentage each year due to a variety of factors including increased costs for salaries, benefits, utilities and supplies.
- We will continue to pay our bills using savings to offset any deficit as required...as long as our savings last. At the current time St. Paul's has approximately \$100,000 in savings and restricted funds which could be used for this purpose.

The Vestry hopes that you find this information helpful. We strongly encourage members of the congregation with suggestions as to how we might increase our revenue to please forward those ideas to any member of the Vestry. Your ideas are most welcomed as we work collectively and prayerfully to move St. Paul's forward. Please know that the Vestry remains committed to the continued vitality of St. Paul's. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Vestry if you have questions relating to our fiscal health.

Jeff Spaulding; Senior Warden

## Holiday Purchase with Scrip (Gift Cards)

Please take the opportunity to use gift cards for your purchases instead of currency, checks or credit cards. The more Scrip/Gift Cards that are purchased through St. Paul's, the less fundraising we have to do with other projects. Please use the Scrip order form or call Pete. Scrip can be used for groceries for all your Holiday meals and baking, for gasoline, home improvement, pharmacy and you can buy anything with an Amazon gift card.

Pete McIntosh 410-984-3363

## Help Make St. Paul's Paint Out a Success!!

Once again we will gather for a night of fun while benefiting St. Paul's. Bring friends and family and join us while creating a beautiful picture, uniquely your own, to take home and cherish. Sip a hot chocolate, tea, or glass of wine while you paint. No experience needed. All supplies provided.

Date: January 14, 2017 Snow Date: January 21, 2017

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Place: St. Paul's Church Price: \$35 per person

Questions call Ginny Chandler 443-266-7168

Registration forms will be in the Parish Hall and at [www.stpaulsmtairy.org](http://www.stpaulsmtairy.org)

Sign up by Friday, January 6, 2017

Mail registration form with payment to St. Paul's Church (in memo line "Paint Out") Address: 16457 Old Frederick Rd, Mt. Airy, MD 21771 **Hope to see you there.**

### Dear Members,

Let's remember our sick and shut-ins this time of year with cards, notes, calls and visits. A list with their names and addresses can be found below and on the table in the parish hall. Please add others you know. Remember to let the Pastoral Care Team know of needs and concerns of our congregations and their families

Al & Pat Marquis George's Assisted Living 12933 Summit Ridge Terrace Germantown, MD 20892	Dottie Streaker 103 Park Ave. Mt. Airy, MD 21771	Trudi Lawson 3004 N. Ridge Rd. #413 Ellicott City, MD 21043	Dallas Reeve P.O. Box 227 Jennings Chapel Rd Woodbine, MD 21797
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Anne Caldwell 1211 Long Corner Rd Mt. Airy, MD 21771	Mary Jo & Herb Grabau The Meadows 4113 Ridge Rd. Rm #5 Westminister, MD 21157
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## MISSION AND OUTREACH UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who provided a gift, or two, from the Angel Tree. Gifts will be delivered to the Salvation Army in Westminster on December 8. The Salvation Army will then distribute them and you will have made several children's Christmas dreams come true! You are all modern day Santas! Thanks again!!



We have taken care of our Sponsored Child, Shakira for Christmas too. Thanks to several generous parishioners we have donated \$90, which provides Shakira plus one other child a new mattress, blanket and mosquito net. We also sent a gift of a wooden Nativity set.

*Merry Christmas*



Thank you for all of your support over the past year for all our outreach programs. You always go above and beyond our requests to help others! We wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

## Stephen Ministry

The Longest Night Service will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Calvary United Methodist Church in Mount Airy. This service is a time for those



who may be struggling during the holiday season. Whether dealing with grief, illness, unemployment, a family crisis, depression, or any number of other situations, this service is a time to know that even in the midst of the longest, darkest nights of December, God is with us.

Every year Calvary's Stephen Ministry plans and hosts this worship service as an opportunity to share their ministry of compassion and care with the larger community. Stephen Ministry offers one-on-one caring Christian relationships. Trained Stephen Ministers are available to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are suffering. Stephen Ministers are available during the Longest Night Service to pray with folks or simply offer a caring Christian presence.

For further information please contact Rev. Angela Flanagan at Calvary UMC, 301-829-0358. This is an opportunity to reach out and share God's love in a hurting world. Lee Hajek

## **FROM THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL ~ ENCOUNTER CHRIST | ENGAGE THE WORLD**

The Diocesan Council invites you to participate in listening sessions on reparations.

In response to a resolution at last May's Diocesan Convention, Council was charged with taking up this issue. An ad hoc Committee on Reparations recommended listening sessions across the diocese. The purpose of the listening session is for the Diocesan Council to hear your opinions.

November 29, 7:00 p.m., Claggett Center

December 3, noon, Emmanuel, Cumberland

December 13, 7:30 p.m., Holy Comforter, Lutherville

January 11, 7:00 p.m., All Saints, Sunderland

January 16, 10:00 a.m., Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore

You may attend as many sessions as you would like.

Bishop Sutton and members of the Diocesan Council expect to be at all sessions. Join us for this holy conversation and engage in the ministry of reconciliation in God's world and in our diocese.

## **Patapsco Valley Regional Council**

All are invited to the PVRC meeting on December 6, at St. Mary's Woodlawn. The Meet and Greet starts at 7:00 p.m. and the business session begins at 7:30 p.m. Please come and join in the conversations concerning the workings and governing of our Diocese.

## **Cookie Exchange**

Will be Friday, December 9, 6:00 p.m. at the home of Suzanne & Paul Bourg. Please bring 6 dozen of the **SAME** cookie.

## **St. Paul's Christmas Card Mail Boxes**

Will be in the parish hall until Sunday, December 11th. These boxes will hold the Christmas Cards you want to give to your parish family, without going through the U.S. mail. The cards will be in alphabetical order in the parish hall on Sunday, December 18, and Christmas Eve. Please be sure to pick up your cards.

## Stewardship Reminders

1. All 2016 contributions must be received by Sunday, January 1, or earlier for them to appear on our end-of-the-year tax statement.
2. In each box of 2017 church offering envelopes, there is an initial offering envelope. The donation from this envelope helps to underwrite the cost of the envelopes. Each box costs the church \$4.00. Please include that amount (or a little more if you like) in that envelope.

## Soup-er Sundays in January

Please bring a can or more of soup for the Mt. Airy Net Food Pantry, on the 5 Sundays of January. Let's fill the box in the Parish Hall with all kinds of soup, so we can fill up the shelves with soup at the food pantry. We can do a soup-er job and you will feel soup-er in helping people who need food. The people who benefit from the food pantry will be grateful.

## Christmas Decorations



The church will be decorated with an array of color. Please help make the season colorful. Place your donation and this form in the collection plate or return to the church office by Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. All names will appear in all the Christmas bulletins.

**In Loving memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**In Thanksgiving for:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**In Thanksgiving by:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**For Altar Linens:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Given By:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Spiritual Enlightenment (Adult Forum)

Continues 9:30-10:15 a.m. on Sundays. Please note: there will be **NO** class on the **first Sunday** of each month and on the **occasions** when there is **only one service**.

## Church Offering Envelopes

If you would like a box of weekly offering envelopes for 2017 and did not have them this year, please let our treasurer Linda Sharp, know.



## A Very Big Thank You is Extended to All

Our parish family and friends who helped in any way to make the Bazaar of the Churches a big success.

## St. Paul's Thrift Shop

Helpers are still needed to sort and restock on Monday and Wednesday mornings; help carry Mission bags out to the shed on Wednesday mornings, as you are available; and volunteers to sell in the shop at least one day per month on a regular basis. Shop is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11:30 -3:00.

Phyllis Weston and Kathy Audia

## Helping Hands Outreach



The Helping Hands outreach team is ready to help you. Please let Dick Wilcher know if you can use some help, @ 301-829-3908 and he will schedule a time to help you.



## Sunday Breakfast All you Can Eat!

**Dec. 11-** Lisbon Fire Hall- 7:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.  
Adults-\$8.00

**Dec 18** - Mt. Airy Fire Hall 8:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.  
Adults \$8.00

**No Breakfast** at St. Michaels Church in December



## Please continue to save the following:

### \*Beverage Can Pull Tabs



These tabs are given to the Baltimore Shriners and they receive .50 a pound. All money is given to Shriner's Hospital where children – regardless of race, color or creed, are treated free of charge for severe burns, orthopedic problems and spinal cord injuries.

### \*Campbell's Product Labels and Box Tops for Education

The Box Tops for Education Coupons are found on General Mills and other products. (Please be sure the coupon shows an expiration date.) When labels and coupons are turned in, the school receives books, supplies and equipment.



On the table in the parish hall, there is a plastic container where you can leave everything. Any questions see or call Linda Barnes at 443-604-3402. Many thanks for your help. It is greatly appreciated! Linda Barnes

*Merry Christmas*



## Happy Birthday To:

Dick Wilcher Dec 06  
 Phyllis Weston Dec 08  
 Michele Samuel Dec 15  
 Jeff Spaulding Dec 17  
 Robin McCourt Dec 19  
 Paul Keller Dec 22  
 Bill Toole Dec 31



## Happy Anniversary To:

Landon & Dallas Reeve  
 Dec 02  
 Ginny & George Chandler  
 Dec 09

## Prayer List

Paul Bourg  
 Dave Lawson  
 DallasReeve  
 Keith Prentice  
 Phyllis Heffner  
 Doris Sharp  
 Bill Winebrunner  
 Joannie Lee  
 Kurt VonHurst  
 Allene VonHurst  
 Al Parker  
 Craig Johnson  
 Joanne Johnson  
 Jeffrey Johnson  
 Lora Hollands  
 Pam Sherfey  
 Debbie Gardner  
 Ann Boyles  
 Sandra & Stanley Napier  
 Irene Hordubay  
 Beth Husted  
 Lynn Carr  
 Allison Poleger  
 Sam Lucas  
 John Lucas



Mary Wales-North  
 Patsy Mavity  
 Donna Shurney  
 Kaye Rineer  
 Belinda Blizzard  
 Janice Esler  
 Matt Willingham  
 Susie Gibson  
 Andrew Oberle  
 Joey  
 Herb & Mary Jo Grabau  
 John Tuel  
 Delphine Koval  
 John Belous  
 Bill Aaron  
 Albert Hutchison  
 Katherine Gilbeertz  
 Ryan Merton  
 Kathleen Rumble  
 Nancy McIntosh  
 Ginny Triplett  
 Marie Cagle  
 Dottie Streaker  
 Brian Thompson  
 James Anthony  
 Thomas Stevens  
 Joan Selden  
 Joe Goins  
 Gil Seibel  
 Suzanne Bourg  
 The Fentons  
 Carolyn Prentice  
 Teresa  
 Regina Hutchison  
 Mary Ellen Hutchison  
 Kayleigh McIntosh  
 Harless & Peggy H.  
 Dottie Williams

## **Powerful Prayer for Healing**

Jesus,  
 With just one touch from your  
 Almighty creative hand,  
 You have healed the sick and  
 raised the dead.  
 How amazing is your Lordship  
 over all the earth,  
 How powerful is your

redeeming love.  
 How great was your sacrifice  
 to go before us and bring  
 forgiveness and hope.  
 By your stripes I ask for  
 healing. Standing within your  
 reign and rule I ask for  
 restoration. May life and  
 wellness grow in fullness until  
 it overflows. Amen.

## Pastoral Concern

Pastoral issues and concerns  
 are important to us. Please  
 contact the Rev. Susan S.  
 Keller, at 301-785-1687 or  
[revssk@yahoo.com](mailto:revssk@yahoo.com).  
 You may also call the church,  
 410-489-4411, Monday  
 through Friday, 9:00-12:00.  
 Parish Email: [stpaulschurch-  
 mtairy@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net)  
[www.stpaulsmtairy.org](http://www.stpaulsmtairy.org)

## VISION STATEMENT

**Our Vision is:** A community of  
 faith ministering to those in  
 need of justice, reconciliation,  
 hospitality, sanctuary, and  
 growth in their spiritual journey

## MISSION STATEMENT

**Our Mission is:** To carry the  
 good news of Jesus Christ into  
 the community by word and  
 deed and to help all people  
 experience God's presence in  
 their daily lives.



**St. Paul's "A  
 shining light in  
 the community"**

## December 2016 ~ Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>2</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>3</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
				<u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Minister Mtg.		
<b>4</b> <u>9:00 a.m.</u> Rite II	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>9</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>10</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
<i>Hospitality Hour following</i>						
<b>11</b> <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30a.m.</u> Adult Forum <u>10:30. a.m.</u> Rite II	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <u>10:00</u> Pastoral Care Team	<b>15</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>16</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>17</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
<i>Hospitality Hour following</i>				<u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Minister Mtg. <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Vestry Mtg.		
<b>18</b> <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30a.m.</u> Adult Forum <u>10:30. a.m.</u> Rite II	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>23</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b>  <b>Thrift Shop Closed</b>
<i>Hospitality Hour Following</i>						<b>6:00 p.m.</b> <b>Christmas Eve Service</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>30</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	<b>31</b> <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
<b>No Service</b>						



## December 2016 ~ Service Calendar

	December 4 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Blue	December 11 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Blue		December 18 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Blue		Saturday ~ December 24 Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve White	
	<u>9:00 AM</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30AM</u>	<u>6:00 PM</u>	
<b>Greeter/ Usher</b>	Greg & Norma Prentice		Linda Barnes, Linda Sharp	Greg & Norma Prentice	Dana Fritzges	Dana Fritzges, Linda Sharp	
<b>Chalicer</b>	Ron Alexander	Leo Campion	Pete McIntosh	Ron Alexander	Carrie Brown	Ron Alexander	
<b>Acolyte(s)</b>	Ron Alexander	Leo Campion	Pete McIntosh	Ron Alexander	Carrie Brown	Pete McIntosh	
<b>Lector</b>	Kathleen Alexander	Irene Hillen	Dick Wilcher	Al Yeater	Stephen Jones	Kathleen Alexander	
<b>Psalm</b>	Al Yeater	Barb Campion	Nancy McIntosh	Al Yeater	Lee Hajek	Dorothy Kitt	
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Dorothy Kitt	Barb Campion	Nancy McIntosh	Kathleen Alexander	Lee Hajek	Dick Wilcher	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Etta Lee Spaulding, Linda Sharp	Dana Fritzges, Kathy Audia		Joanne Honsberger, Barb Campion		Linda Barnes, Suzanne Bourg	
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Joanne Honsberger, Celeste Humphreys	Phyllis Heffner, Jeni Cassera		Linda Barnes, Wendy Gahm		No Coffee Hour	
<b>Counters</b>	Linda Sharp, Linda Barnes	Celeste Humphreys, John Tuel		Lynda Sheckels, Etta Lee Spaulding		Irene & Jim Hillen	

**Saturday ~ Dec 23, 10:00 a.m. Altar Guild – all members meet for Christmas preparations.**



*I Said a Christmas Prayer for You  
because the season's near.*

*I didn't ask for riches  
but for gifts so much more dear.*

*I asked for joyful gatherings  
with your family all around,  
And for carols to inspire you  
with their old familiar sound.*

*I asked for quiet moments  
in your heart on Christmas morn,  
For a special time to celebrate  
the Savior who was born...*

